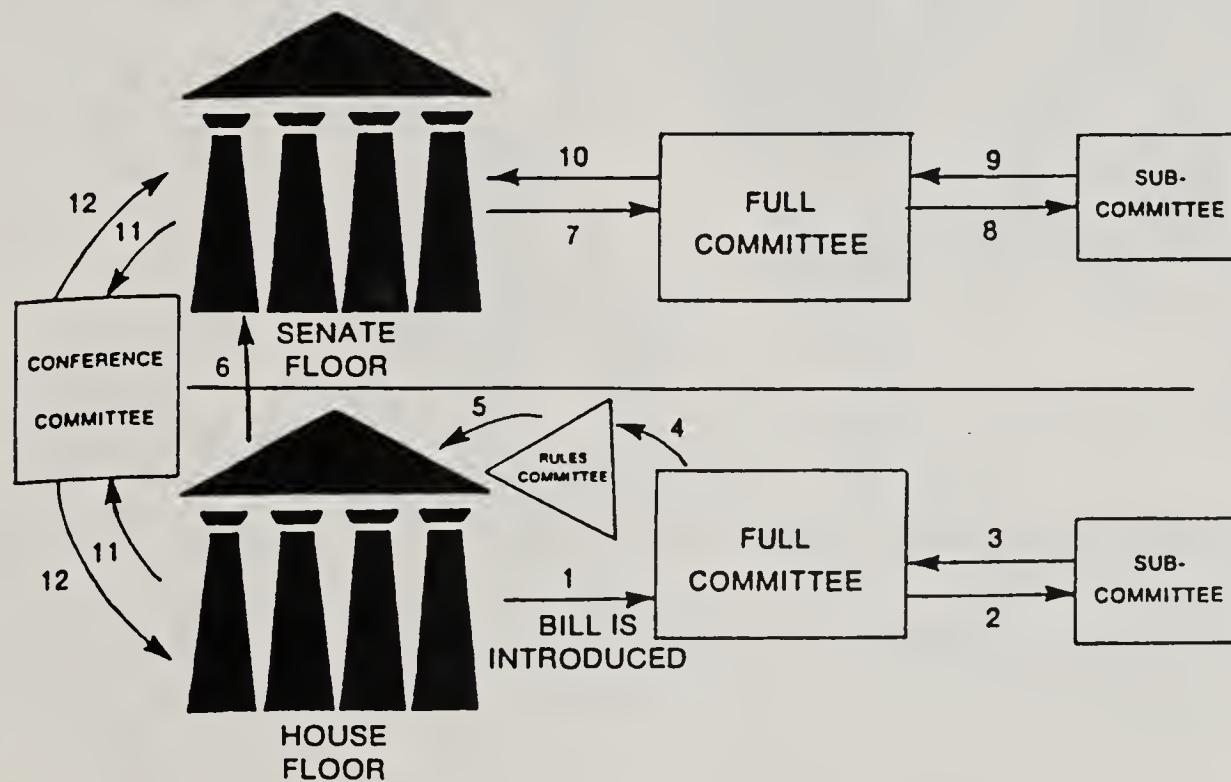


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How a House-Proposed Bill Travels Through the Congressional Maze



WIC Study Released

The Study of Funding for Nutrition Services and Program Administration in the WIC Program has been delivered to Congress and distributed to regional offices and state WIC agencies.

This study, required by Public Law 100-237, looks at WIC program funds reserved for nutrition services and program administration. According to Julie Kresge, project officer and author, "WIC's administrative cost per case month and the variation in operating costs for WIC is less than evidenced by other assistance programs for low-income people.

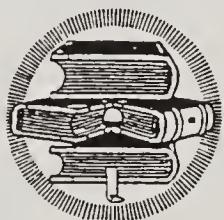
However, the report also states that "Food cost reductions have changed the underlying dynamics of administrative funds distribution in WIC." The report examines the potential effects from food-cost savings initiatives, particularly infant-formula rebates. The report simulation shows almost 800,000 participants could be added to the WIC program if infant-formula rebates were implemented nationwide. However, the administrative grant per participant would fall about 20 percent, as a result of the administrative grant being stretched over the larger caseload. In that context, the report

(Study Continued Last Page)

Appropriations Law Seminar Held at Headquarters

A seminar on appropriations law was held at headquarters March 29 to 31 and was jointly sponsored by Financial Management and Management through the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). Participants included 29 headquarters and regional Financial Management directors, funds officers, and others with certain fiscal responsibilities.

The seminar was led by Meg Archibald, an OPM instructor. Formerly an attorney with the General Accounting Office (GAO), Archibald coedited the 2-1/4-inch-thick reference text: Federal Appropriations Law. Archibald also leads this seminar nationwide.



The agenda included an overview of GAO and its relationship to the Office of

Management and Budget and the Congress, the Federal Budget Process and how these agencies impact on it, as well as several case studies of questions presented to GAO by Federal agencies.

The seminar will be offered again in August if there is sufficient interest from other FNS staff. The seminar is recommended for regional grants management staff and program directors, and headquarters GM-14's and above, especially those who assist in interpreting appropriations law for program purposes.

Due to limited funds, the August seminar will not be funded centrally. The estimated cost of the seminar will be approximately \$340 per participant.

Please direct any questions to Phyllis Preston at FTS 756-3465.

-Story by Anneva Hackley
Financial Management

SWRO Employee Approved for Leave Transfer Program

Roger Putman, food program specialist in SWRO's Supplemental and Indian Food Programs, is in serious condition in Lubbock, Texas, following an automobile accident February 1. His prognosis is not clear at this time.

Since Roger had been with the Federal Government for only 4 months at the time of the accident, he had accrued very little leave. Roger has been approved to participate as a recipient in the leave transfer program. This means that USDA employees wishing to do so may donate annual leave to Roger by contacting their respective personnel offices.

To illustrate how the program works: If 100 people each donated 1 day of annual leave to Roger, it would give him 20 weeks of salary and benefits--including much needed medical insurance.

Although he has been with FNS for only a short time, Roger has made many friends

and is recognized as an effective member of the SWRO staff. His family will appreciate any leave donated to him, and they are overwhelmed with the care and concern people have already shown.



-Story by Blanche Jackson
Photo by Judy Snow
SWRO Public Affairs Staff

20th Anniversary Photo Trivia

Upcoming issues of "The Friday Letter" will include photos such as these to quiz your FNS memory bank. If you can identify these people and the subsequent photos, please send your quesses to Phyllis Weaver, Special Nutrition Programs, Room 510.



Are there still some of us left who remember these faces?



Who's this kid?

Some
people
change
more
than
others.



The darkest
secret in FNS.



Only the hair style
has changed!



Who's this loveable butterball
from the year 1972?

SERO Holds QC Meeting

Eighty-two Federal and state officials met in Atlanta for a training session with the working title, "Food Stamp Quality Control...A New Beginning."

The meeting was in response to program changes mandated by the Hunger Prevention Act of 1988.

Although the Atlanta meeting was a Federal training session, state representatives attended, and plans are being made to include them in future sessions.



SERO food program specialist David Hinnant (center) makes a point during the quality control training session.

-Story and photo by Steve Watson
SERO Public Affairs Staff

Women Make History

With March designated as National Women's History Month, WRO chose two films and a speaker to celebrate women's "Heritage of Strength and Vision."

The first film, entitled "She's Nobody's Baby," portrayed the numerous roles of women in the 20th century--from housewife to Rosie the Riveter--and reviewed the political and social

advances made by American women. The second film was a documentary on Madame C. J. Walker, the first self-made black millionairess in the United States. The film showed the generosity of a woman who grew up in a poor household, developed a hair-straightening product on her kitchen stove, and went on to own factories and salons, and to donate two-thirds of her company's profit to charity.

The series culminated in a discussion led by Linda Marks, a private consultant to the Federal Women's Bureau. Marks spoke on the effect of women's entrance into the workforce, the progress that has been made, and the ways the workforce will continue to change because of women's increasing roles. The informative lecture Marks had planned turned into quite a lively discussion on the changes being made in the workplace because of women's involvement.

-Story by Kristen Bole
WRO Public Affairs Staff

Black History Month Committee Receives Certificates of Appreciation

Certificates of appreciation were presented to the headquarters Black History Month Committee by Acting Administrator Scott Dunn "for significant voluntary contributions to the planning and presentation of Black History Month activities during February 1989." The committee members are: Brenda Bryant, Darlene Bryant, Bernice Cockrell, Anneva Hackley, Lisa Jones, Maxine McMillian, Gloria McColl, Floyd Miles, Twanda Rodgers, Phyllis Twyman, Floyd Wheeler, and Charlene Simmons.



-Story by Charlene Simmons
Black History Month Committee

Regions Recruit Students

SERO

SERO Civil Rights Director Haynes Pressley (left) talks with a student at Florida International University in Miami about employment opportunities with FNS. "We're trying to broaden our base of potential employees so that supervisors can select from among more applicants," Pressley says. "Thus far, the response has made our efforts worthwhile." He and Paulianne Elliott, SERO's personnel director, are visiting 11 primarily black and 1890 land-grant colleges this fiscal year to help meet USDA's goal of recruiting more minorities and women.



-Story by Steve Watson
Photo by Paulianne Elliott
SERO Public Affairs Staff

SWRO

FNS was one of a large number of private business and government agencies participating in a recent high-tech minority job fair in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Approximately 70 of the 600 students attending the fair interviewed with FNS representatives from the SWRO for potential positions nationwide. Many of these students submitted applications or are expected to.

Students attending the job fair were from 10 colleges and universities in New Mexico, as well as the University of Texas at El Paso.



SWRO employees representing FNS at the fair were Assistant Regional Administrator Ronnie Rhodes, Civil Rights Director Ola Moore (left), Financial Management Director Mike McIlwain, Albuquerque OIC Lydia Maestas, and personnel specialist Lupe Gomez (right).

- Story by Judy Snow
Photo by Mike McIlwain
SWRO Public Affairs Staff

Regions Conduct Federal Review System Training

WRO and MPRO recently combined their training sessions for the Federal Review System in San Diego. San Francisco staffer Pat Pianko conducted a session on free and reduced-price meal applications and rosters at the joint meeting.

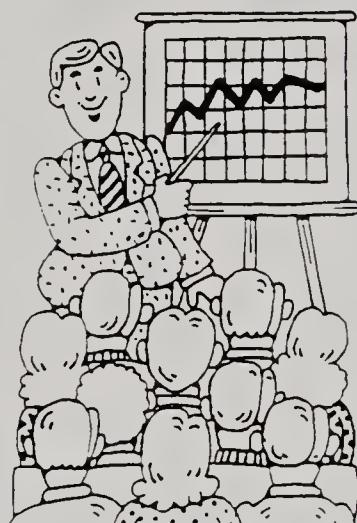


- Photo by MPRO
Public Affairs Staff

MPRO Holds Summer Workshop in Missouri

MPRO recently held a 3-day Summer Food Service Program workshop in Kansas City, Missouri, to provide advance training in the summer program for field and state staffs. Seven of the nine MPRO states that operate summer programs sent representatives, and all MPRO field offices also were represented.

Usually a session on the summer program is included as part of MPRO's consultant meetings. This was the first separate summer workshop for state staff and involved the people who actually work with the program. It provided an opportunity for state and MPRO staffs to get better acquainted and to focus on important components of the program.



Included on the agenda were sessions on regulations; handbook changes; MAP's and time frames; financial management and claims for reimbursement; site eligibility; civil rights; sponsor/site reviews; working with food service management companies; management evaluations; and how the field, regional, and state staffs can work together.

The final day was earmarked for field staff only and focused on the 1989 management evaluations they would be conducting of their state agencies' operations. In addition, field staff shared concerns and experiences and received training on meal pattern requirements and menu planning. Field offices have been assuming a larger role in the summer program, and their on-site location helps them when coordinating reviews with their other state visits.

-Story by Joanne Widner
MPRO Public Affairs

Virginia Food Dealers Convention Convenes in Richmond

The Richmond, Virginia, Field Office recently staffed an information booth at the Virginia Food Dealers Convention at the Richmond Centre. Several hundred people, including at least 15 representatives of the larger food chain corporations, stopped at the booth to ask questions and obtain authorization materials.

"This was one of the most successful conventions since we have been involved in providing information and educational materials," said Joe Justice, Richmond OIC.

The primary difference this year was the larger number of individual clerks who stopped by to ask questions concerning such things as the sale of deli items, change-making, and identification requirements. The staff also had a number of WIC program inquiries.

Several retailers reported program abuse by six firms. Investigations will be requested.

The field staff reminded retailers to strengthen supervision and training of all clerks, since the Department has increased its efforts to secure compliance.

-Story by Kim Jabat
MARO Public Affairs Staff



Friday Letter Vacancy Listing by Vacancy Number

JOB TITLE	AREA OF CONSID.	SERIES	GRADE	CLOSING DATE	VACANCY NUMBER	OFFICE LOCATION
o Supv Prog Analyst	(FNS-N)	GM-0345	14	05/22/89	89-111	PID
o Home Economist	(A)	GS-0493	7/9	05/30/89	89-112	HNIS
o Program Analyst	(A)	GS-0345	12/13	06/05/89	89-113	OAE
o Program Analyst	(A)	GS-0345	9/11	06/05/89	89-114	OAE
o Program Analyst	(A)	GM-0345	14	06/02/89	89-115	ORO
o Program Analyst	(A)	GS-0345	13	06/05/89	89-116	OAE
o Secretary*	(FNS-HQ)	GS-318	6/7	05/24/89	89-117	PID

Office Location

HNIS - Human Nutrition Information Service
 PID - Program Information Division
 OAE - Office of Analysis and Evaluation
 ORO - Office of Regional Operations

Area of Consideration

(A) - All Sources
 (FNS-N) - Food and Nutrition Service (Nationwide)
 (FNS-HQ) - Food and Nutrition Service (Headquarters)

*Temporary promotion NTE 6/29/89 with a possibility of an extension.

(Study Continued)

Mary E. Kennedy, Editor

The Friday Letter is published every two weeks by the Public Information Staff of the Food and Nutrition Service. To update mailing address or to alter number of copies received, please mail changes to the FNS Public Information Staff, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 823, Alexandria, VA 22302, telephone 756-3000.

discusses a number of alternative responses to the changes brought about by food-cost savings.

The report was cooperatively produced by the Office of Analysis and Evaluation and the Supplemental Food Programs Division with additional assistance by Abt Associates, Inc. Requests or inquiries regarding the report may be directed to Frances Zorn, Office of Analysis and Evaluation, FTS 756-3133.

-Story by Julie Kresge
Office of Analysis and Evaluation